

**"Education is not within the scope of the limited government contemplated by the founders of our federal system. Rather, education is a function of state and local government and a child's parents, who are best positioned to know what is best for their child."**

--Congressman Mike Pence

Our children are Indiana's future, and they deserve every opportunity to be prepared for the challenges of tomorrow. Unfortunately, in many areas, our schools are letting them down. As I visit with teachers, administrators and parents across the 6th Congressional District of Indiana, they ask me to fight for real education reform. They did not send me to Washington to increase the federal government's role in their lives. They sent me to fight for innovation and reform by funneling resources, not red tape, from the federal government to our local schools.

Our Founding Fathers enshrined in the Constitution the principle of federalism – the notion that the federal government should involve itself only with those issues that states and localities cannot resolve on their own. States and localities are closest to the needs of the people and know best how to address their concerns.

For this reason, I support empowering parents with school choice. Every child must have the opportunity to pursue the American dream. Forcing them to attend failing schools robs them of this chance. Further, I firmly believe parents are much better positioned than bureaucrats to determine which schools their children should attend. Because of these convictions, as a public servant, parent, and spouse of a teacher, I will continue to fight for local control of education.

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